

Principles and Purposes of Assessment

Principles of Assessment

1. Assessments must be culturally relevant to the child and family and will be conducted by persons who are culturally competent and culturally experienced.
2. Assessments will be in the child's preferred language or mode of communication.
3. Assessments will be developmentally appropriate to the child and responsive to the strengths and needs of the child and family.
4. Assessments will be comprehensive enough to develop recommendations for services and supports that best serve the child's and family's strengths and needs.
5. Assessment results and strengths-based interpretations will be a basis for relationship building between service providers and the child and family.
6. Assessment results will be communicated clearly and specifically so that agencies and consumers can develop appropriate services and supports.
7. Assessments in collaboration with the child and family will provide the bases for treatment planning and measuring progress.

Purposes of Assessment

- Promotes and supports communication and partnering between agencies and children and families
- Provides information about the child's and family's strengths and needs for services and supports
- Establishes eligibility for funding and services
- Provides the basis for treatment plans or curriculum
- Establishes a baseline from which to measure progress toward outcomes and to identify the need for additional or alternative services, supports, outcomes and treatment
- Promotes consistency, accountability and continuity for the child and family and accountability for all stakeholders
- Promotes consistency of services, supports and treatment
- Promotes cost effectiveness of services
- Provides a feedback process to improve services
- Provides an ongoing source for data collection that can be used in system evaluation and planning